

**Minutes of the Meeting of The
New Jersey Maritime Pilot & Docking Pilot Commission
November 13, 2014**

The regular meeting of The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission was held on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at One Penn Plaza East, 9th Floor, Newark, NJ 07105.

Commissioner Stapleton called the meeting to order at 10:07am.

Open Public Meetings Statement

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioner Timothy J. Dacey (present); Commissioner Brian McEwing (absent); Commissioners Charles E. Stapleton (present); Commissioner Charles Wowkanech (present).

Approval of the October 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Dacey and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2014 meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

Resolution #14-31 to approve the November 2014 Treasurers Report

A motion was made by Commissioner Dacey and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech to pass Resolution #14-31 to approve the November 2014 Treasurers report. All voted in favor.

Executive Director Report

The docking pilots Associations' have requested that the Commission start the process for the apprentice selection process. Ms. Stuckey will get a Committee together and update the open ad for publication in the Professional Mariner and Workboat Magazines. The ad will also be placed on the

Commission's website. She anticipates that the interviews will take place in early April 2015.

Sandy Hook will host an Educational Cruise on the Hackensack and Passaic Rivers on Thursday, December 4, 2014. Anyone interested in attending should notify Ms. Stuckey.

Ms. Stuckey attended the Port Authority's Economic Port Briefing on October 29, 2014. The report indicates a 3% growth in the U.S. Economy. Oil prices are weaker due to strong production in North America. The low prices are expected to remain in check for the next 2-3 years. The recent issues surrounding Ebola will have a short term effect on the economy but in the long run the impact will be minimal. Other trends show weak growth in Europe and Japan, India shows promise while Brazil and Russia are in a recession. If anyone is interested in reviewing the PowerPoint presentation, please contact Ms. Stuckey and she will forward a copy of the link to the report.

The Commissioners were given a copy of a Marine Safety Alert published by the Coast Guard. The alert strongly recommends that vessel owners and operators refrain from modifying embarkation equipment as it proposes a safety hazard for pilots.

The Coast Guard has published another limit of fuel sulfur requirements for vessels entering into our ports. They will begin enforcing the new limits beginning January 1, 2015. The requirement indicates that sulfur content cannot exceed 1%. There is concern in the pilot community about the affect this will have on vessels i.e. clogged fuel filters, failing fuel lines, etc. Ms. Stuckey will monitor all vessels with power losses to see if any type of trend develops. If the new requirements cause any issues, she will meet with the COTP to discuss.

Since the onset of the Ebola scare there has only been one vessel entering our ports that ranked a number five in the pre-boarding screen protocol. A number five is a vessel carrying a person that is identified as recently visiting a country/region affected by a highly infectious disease and requires further vetting. The Wheelhouse watch on the outside boat proceeded with the proper questions to ensure there were no infected persons on board prior to the pilot embarking the vessel.

New York will take on a new apprentice from the newly adopted list on December 1 2014.

Ms. Stuckey is working with the New York Commission and the two presidents on a proposal to adjust the intraharbor intermediate rates. The recommendation is that the rate be brought in line with the current pilotage fee. The Commissioners were given a copy of the proposed increases to review. At the December 16 2014 regular meeting Captains Rick Schoenlank and Tom Walsh will be available to answer any questions on the proposal. The goal is to have the two Commissions adopt the approved rates simultaneously.

The Port Authority will hold its annual briefing on December 4, 2014 at the Newark Liberty International Airport Marriot. Anyone interested in attending should advise Ms. Stuckey ASAP so that she can make the necessary RSVPs. Ms. Stuckey plans to attend.

The next Harbor Ops meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 19, 2014 in Fort Wadsworth followed by an Oil Terminal Roundtable meeting. The Commissioners were provided with a copy of the proposed agenda. Ms. Stuckey will attend the meetings and report to the Commissioners at the December 16 2014 meeting.

Ms. Stuckey submitted a resume to Tyler Yingling at the Authorities Unit for the person she would like to hire as the Commission's Administrative Assistant. Ms. Kinta Montilus is currently working for New Jersey Transit and is the Administrative Assistant for the Deputy Executive Director, Chief of Staff and Public Relations Director. She is familiar with the work of the Commission and Ms. Stuckey believes she will be a valuable asset.

Ms. Stuckey reminded the Commissioners that they still needed to complete their on-line ethics training.

Immediately following today's meeting there will be a brief training on New Jersey's Policy prohibiting discrimination in the Workplace. Deputy Commissioner Jean Victor from DOT will conduct the training.

Public Comment

Comment from Captain Richard Schoenlank, President Sandy Hook Pilots Association:

Captain Schoenlank informed the Commission that the pilots are concerned about the use of magnetic devices some of the terminals use to hold the Jacobs ladder in place. He cited an incident where one of the devices fell off and hit a pilot on the head as he was boarding the vessel. The pilot almost lost his life.

Captain Schoenlank attended the APA convention the end of October. There were several discussions regarding the Ebola issue. He will attend a Counter Terrorism table-top exercise in Brooklyn on October 25, 2014 regarding this issue.

The Quantum of the Seas, the largest cruise ship in America came into port this week. The vessel will begin making regular calls into the port in May, 2015.

White Whale speeds will be imposed beginning May 1, 2015. There are some safety issues that need to be addressed.

Comments from Captain Robert Flannery, President Metro Pilots Association:

The last time the low sulfur fuel restrictions were enforced, there was a 30% increase in the number of vessels experiencing power losses.

The Quantum of the Seas will berth at Port Liberty. The pilots have made an agreement with Global Terminal that there will be no oil barges along-side the berth while the vessel is being docked.

Committee Reports

A. Audit Committee:

Commissioner Dacey reported that the Committee met via teleconference to review the audit with the Auditor. He reports that the Commission's accounts are in good shape and the audit was clean. He went over the history to the surplus funds that were on account in Trenton and pointed out how the pilotage fee was adjusted as necessary. Ms. Stuckey will continue to monitor the surplus and advise the Commission if/when the fee needs to be adjusted. Commissioner Stapleton pointed out that the State of New Jersey does not contribute any tax dollars towards the

operation of the Commission and that every penny utilized to run the Commission is 100% funded by pilotage fees.

B. Investigation Committee:

- I. **MSC Rania** - February 2, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- II. **Wanderer** - March 18, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- III. **CSAV Lonconillia** - May 16, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- IV. **Port Richmond** - May 29, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- V. **STI Beryl** - June 14, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- VI. **Puccini** - August 18, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- VII. **Bremen Express** - October 3, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.
- VIII. **Hangin Newport** - October 4, 2014. This incident is still under investigation.

Presentation of Certificate of Appointment to Apprentice James P. Britton

At the Commission's November 13, 2014 regular meeting Resolution #14-28 was passed to approve the appointment of Maritime Pilot Apprentice James P. Britton.

Apprentice Britton was presented with the Certificate of Appointment by Commissioner Charles Stapleton. He thanked the Commission and gave a brief summary of his experience.

Old Business

- A. Masters on Cruise Vessels utilizing the Auto Pilot.
- Ms. Stuckey reported that she met with Frank Keane and Captains Rick Schoenlank and Tom Walsh. The pilots have not come up with a recommendation because there is discrepancy between New York and New Jersey pilots on the use of auto pilots. The Commissioners were presented with some of the research materials that were reviewed at the meeting. Ms. Stuckey advised that she and Frank Keane are working to put together a joint policy regarding its use.

Executive Session

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body such as The New Jersey Maritime Pilot and Docking Pilot Commission may meet in closed session to discuss legal and personnel matters, and

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to meet in closed session to discuss such matters.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Commission shall at this time meet in closed session to discuss such matters the substance of the closed session would be disclosed publicly only if it would not warrant an invasion of privacy or constitute a breach of the attorney client privilege.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dacey and seconded by Commissioner Wowkanech that the Commission go into Executive Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission took a break at 10:37am.

Return to Public Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Dacey and seconded by Commissioner Stapleton that the Commission return to Public Session.

All voted in favor.

The Commission returned to Public Session at 12:24pm.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Dacey and seconded by Commissioner Stapleton that the meeting be adjourned. All voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:26pm.